

REMARKS

Prior to an examination on the merits of the above-identified patent application, please enter the foregoing amendments.

Claims 16-35 are now pending in the above-identified patent application, as presented by the instant Preliminary Amendment. All prior (original) claims have been cancelled. Claim 16 is the single claim presented in independent form.

The present application represents the U.S. National Phase of P.C.T. Application No. PCT/DE2005/000232, filed February 10, 2005, and claiming foreign priority on the basis of a corresponding German patent application, filed February 10, 2004.

By the present amendments, prior Claims 1-15 have been cancelled and substituted by new Claims 16-35, which have been drafted in conformance with U.S. claim practice.

Applicants have also added U.S. sectional headings to their Specification (as well as entering various amendments for attending to the correction of various typographical errors), which is represented by the concurrently-filed *Literal English Translation* of P.C.T. Application No. PCT/DE2005/000232.

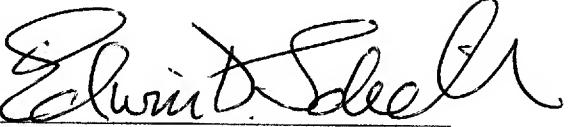
A substitute Abstract of the Disclosure, on a separate sheet of paper, as required by 37 C.F.R. §1.72(b), is also enclosed.

The application is now in condition for a full examination on the merits.

Accordingly, an early examination on the merits and allowance are, therefore, respectfully requested and earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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